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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2/7/ #\$T 5.8.02

P&G Case 7611M

In the application of

APR 2 9 2002

S. E. YOUNG et al.

:

Confirmation No. 5946

Serial No. 09/979,493

: Group Art Unit 2171

Filed January 18, 2002

: Examiner

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made below in a Form PTO/SB08 of documents which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the documents listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3). Applicants have not received an Office Action on the merits in the present application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due. However, in the event that this paper is crossing in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits, authorization is hereby given to charge the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed to facilitate charging of the fee, if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard W. Lewis

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april 19, 2002